GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:723
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2007
NATIONAL WATER BOARD MEET
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the meeting of the National Water Board held on January 05, 2007 which was attended by Secretaries of Water Resources of various States and Irrigation experts, it was made mandatory to seek prior clearance from concerned agencies as like Central Water Commission, Forest Conservation Act and environmental clearance for irrigation projects before their commencement;

(b) if so, its likely impact on the fate of those Projects which are already under construction; and

(c) the likely effects of this decision on the future irrigation projects of the States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The National Water Board (NWB) in its 12th meeting held on January 05, 2007 have noted that a number of ongoing projects are not in a position to get timely assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), mainly because such projects have been taken up without prior clearances. Therefore, the NWB has recommended that clearance of such projects should be expedited and new projects should be taken up after receiving necessary clearances from all concerned. The Board has also recommended that the central agencies would expedite the process of examination and clearances of the project proposals.

(b) & (c) The above recommendation is to provide timely central assistance to the State Governments.